

I wonder what it was like to find an empty tomb three days after Jesus was buried?
I wonder how Mary felt when the angel told her that Jesus was alive?
I wonder why Mary didn't recognize Jesus until he said her name?
I wonder what it was like to see and talk to Jesus again?
I wonder what questions you might have for Jesus?

EASTER BREAKFAST

Resurrection Rolls

You will need:

Refrigerator biscuits
Large marshmallows
Melted margarine
Cinnamon-sugar

1. Give each child an uncooked biscuit and have them flatten it into a circle. Explain to them that it represents Jesus' tomb.
2. Next, give them a marshmallow that represents the body of Jesus. Place the marshmallow in the center of the dough, wrap the dough around it, and pinch the edges tightly to seal.
3. Brush the tops of the dough balls with melted margarine and sprinkle with cinnamon sugar.
4. Bake at 375 degrees for about ten minutes or until lightly browned. Let cool.

When your child breaks open the "tomb" they will find it hollow and empty, just like Jesus' tomb! Celebrate Jesus' life and God's wondrous love!

Resurrection Rolls- GLUTEN FREE

Gluten-free Crescent Rolls:

1/2 stick butter (1/4 cup), room temperature
3/4 cup small curd cottage cheese
1 cup gf flour mix
1 tsp xanthan gum
1/8 tsp salt
1/4 tsp cream of tartar
1/2 tsp baking soda
1 Tbsp sugar
Large marshmallows
Melted butter
Cinnamon and sugar mixed together

1. In a mixing bowl, combine the butter and cottage cheese.

2. Add dry ingredients and mix until a ball of dough forms.
3. Wrap in plastic wrap and chill for 2 hours. (I left mine overnight, as I wanted it ready in the morning).
4. Preheat the oven to 350 degrees. On lightly floured piece of parchment paper, roll the dough into a 14 inch circle. Cut into 8 triangles (really easy with a pizza cutter).
5. Give each child a triangle and explain to them that it represents Jesus' tomb
6. Next, give them a marshmallow that represents the body of Jesus. Place the marshmallow on the dough and very carefully wrap it around the marshmallow, making sure all the seams are pinched together well (so the marshmallow wont ooze out of the seams).
7. Dip the roll into the butter, then roll in the cinnamon and sugar. Place the rolls onto parchment sheets and bake for 20 to 30 minutes. Allow to cool.

When your child breaks open the "tomb" they will find it hollow and empty, just like Jesus' tomb! Celebrate Jesus' life and God's wondrous love!

RESPONSE ACTIVITIES (FOR YOUNGER CHILDREN)

Celebrate!

During the week, continue to celebrate Jesus' resurrection using one or more of the ideas below. Talk about the joy and excitement the disciples felt when they found out that Jesus was alive.

Have a parade! Play praise music and use toy instruments or make Praise Shakers. Fold a paper plate in half and staple the open edges together, leaving a hole to insert beans. Let children decorate their plate as desired. Then help your children spoon a small amount of beans into their plate and staple it shut.

Make Hosanna Streamers. Cut the center out of a paper plate to form a ring. Let your child decorate the ring. Then let them choose 4-5 streamers or ribbons to staple around the edge of their plate. Play praise music and dance together. Praise God and celebrate that Jesus is risen!

Have a party! Write "Jesus is Alive!" on party hats and decorate them. Hang streamers and home-made banners. Have party foods or Resurrection Rolls.

RESPONSE ACTIVITIES

Resurrection Garden

Use whatever supplies you have at home to make a Resurrection Garden (see examples below). Work together or let each child make their own garden. Decide whether you want to be able to bring the garden inside or find a special place in your yard. Let your children use their imaginations and take the lead in creating their garden. After it is finished, use it as a quiet place to spend time in prayer.



Spread a Little Joy!

Think of a family that you would like to surprise with some Easter joy. Make plans to secretly leave them a surprise on the porch, deliver an Easter lily, sidewalk chalk their driveway with Easter blessings, or some other act of kindness. Make a card reminding them that joy is coming in the morning!

J-O-Y Stained Glass

Using sidewalk chalk and painters (or masking) tape make a cross outline on your sidewalk, driveway or fence. See if you can figure out how to spell the word joy in the middle of your cross. Use sidewalk chalk to color in the outlines, then remove the tape. You'll have a colorful "stained glass" reminder that Easter is full of light and full of joy!